

Fair and colder today.
Monday fair.

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SALOME'S KISS MAY WITHDRAW STRAUSS OPERA

Directors of the Metropolitan Issue an
Edict to Herr
Conried.

Production Said to Be
Disgusting and Of-
fensive to Sense
of Decency.

Gruesome Effect Height-
ened by Music, Is
Verdict of the
Critics.

Protest Sent Conried.

Following is the edict sent Mr. Conried:
"Herrlich Conried, Esq.
"Dear Sir: The directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company consider that the performance of 'Salome' is objectionable and detrimental to the best interests of the Metropolitan Opera House. They, therefore, protest against any repetition of this opera.
(Signed) "FRANK N. DODD, Secretary."

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—"Salome," the sensational opera by Richard Strauss, the German composer, which had its first performance in this country on Tuesday night at the Metropolitan Opera house, may never be repeated in this city. It was declared today, at least at the Metropolitan. This is the edict of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Opera.

Mr. Conried received in his mail today a letter from the board of directors of the company and signed by the secretary of the board, Frank N. Dodd, protesting in vigorous terms against a repetition of "Salome" on the grounds that the opera, based on a Biblical story, and carried out as it is with disgusting and sensational realism, offends the public's sense of decency.

Kissing Scene Is Repulsive.
It was said before the meeting of the directors that the scene in the opera where Salome receives the severed head of John the Baptist and kisses the dead lips, is the one against which the main objection is made. In the original play by Oscar Wilde, this scene is much more repulsive than in the opera.
All the musical critics in New York, however, have declared that the accompanying music by Strauss even heightens the gruesome effect.

Salome is the opera of Richard Strauss founded on the story of Oscar Wilde. It tells the story of the lustful love of Salome for John the Baptist.

Herod Smitten With Salome.
Herod, the King, is smitten with Salome, who is the daughter of Herodias, now Herod's wife, and previously the wife of Herod's brother. But Salome flees from his glances to the terrace, where she hears the voice of John the Baptist, prophesying in his prison.
Demanding that John be brought out, for her to see, she conceives a violent passion for him and declares that she will kiss his lips. But the prophet sternly repulses her, and finally curses her, returning to the cistern that is his prison.

John is confined in a cistern in the palace of the King, and there Salome calls to him and tells him of her love. But the follower of Christ repulses the maiden.
Herod, wildly in love with Salome, says that she may have anything of him if she will perform for him the dance of the seven veils. This Salome does, and the King, carried away by his passion, cries out that her wishes shall be granted.

Demand the Severed Head.
Then Salome demands the severed head of John, that she may kiss in death the lips that were refused her in life.

The head is brought to Salome and she kisses it passionately time and again. The King, horrified at Salome, orders her death, and the curtain falls on the maiden's dead body.

Salome, Tuesday night was sung by Mrs. Frensdorff.
Mr. Conried opposes the withdrawal of "Salome," and hopes that the directors of the Metropolitan Opera, which is the holding company for the Conried Metropolitan Opera Company, will withdraw their objections. The directors of both companies are considering the letter requesting the withdrawal of "Salome."

Better Train Service to New York.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 28th, the Pennsylvania Railroad, looking to the better comfort of its passengers, will operate an additional parlor car on its popular New York Business Men's Express, leaving Washington 8:59 a. m. weekdays. Effective Sunday, the 27th, the 8:59 a. m. and 3:59 p. m. express trains will also carry an additional Pullman parlor car equipped on Sundays, making regular Sunday equipment of the 3:59 a. m. train. Pullman club smokers, three drawing room parlor cars, dining car and vestibule coaches.—Adv.

Madhouse Nor Chair To Be Fate of Thaw, Says Chief Counsel



MISS MAY MCKENZIE,
Chorus Girl Accused of "Queering"
Thaw's Case.

HARTRIDGE FEELS NO FEAR OF HOW HOLMANS TESTIFY

Denies Lurid Story of
Row About May Mc-
Kenzie, Chorus Girl.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Clifford W. Hartridge, chief counsel for the Thaw defense made the following statement tonight:

"Counsel for the defense are doing all in their power to facilitate the selection of an unbiased jury; not because there is any fear, as reported, that the accused is in danger of mental or physical collapse, but that we can get him out of jail as soon as possible.

"We have no intention of revealing the line of our defense until the proper time arrives. And that time will not come until the prosecution has rested its case. A surprise will be sprung in the defense which has not been introduced, so far as I know, in any previously tried capital case.

"Thaw and his attorneys are absolutely certain that he will be absolutely acquitted and vindicated. We have never from the very beginning considered that he was in danger of the death chair or incarceration in a madhouse.

No Fear of Homans.

"The fact that young Howard Nesbit and his mother, Mrs. Holman, may testify for the prosecution does not interest the defense in the slightest degree. That contingency is the least of our worry.

"There is no truth in the report that there has been a split in the pleasant relations existing among the members of the Thaw family over the presence of May McKenzie as the daily companion of Evelyn Nesbit Thaw at the trial. I know for a fact that the reason for the Countess of Yarmouth has not been at the trial for the past two days is because she has been suffering from a severe cold.

"Unused to the nervous strain of an appearance in court, where her brother is on trial for his life, it is natural that she might be indisposed."

"I can authoritatively deny that Delphine M. Delmas has, as reported, threatened to resign from the defense because of the presence in the courtroom of the Thaw family group. Mr. Delmas has other matters to attend to than to object to the presence of any young woman in the courtroom. As a matter of fact, I do not believe that he has been aware of the presence of Miss McKenzie.

No Comments on Alienists.

"I cannot make any comment on the fact that alienists for the prosecution have been in court observing the actions of the defendant since the selection of the jury began. Of course, it would be possible for the defense to have done the same thing, had it desired. We have not found that necessary.

When asked if he saw anything unusual in the fact that a subpoenaed witness for the prosecution in the person of Miss May McKenzie was living in the same apartments and on terms of intimacy with the defendant, Mr. Hartridge said:



MRS. EVELYN NESBIT THAW,
Wife of Murderer, Who Has Miss Mc-
Kenzie With Her at Trial.

TRAIN CRASHES INTO TROLLEY AT TOP SPEED

Twentieth Century Lim-
ited Kills One and In-
jures a Score in
Dayton.

DAYTON, Ohio, Jan. 26.—The Twentieth Century Limited of the New York Central, running at high speed, struck westbound Third street car No. 69, of the City railway line, this evening at the East Third street crossing, killing one person, perhaps fatally injuring two others, seriously maiming ten and severely hurting as many more. The flyer was eastbound, and unobserved by the trolley car. It was too late for him to avoid the collision, which was of sufficient force to hurl the car 25 feet along the railroad track, dumping it, shattered and torn, next to the watchman's shanty. There was scarcely more than enough left of the car to make kindling wood, and how any of the occupants escaped death is inexplicable.

Two Probably Fatally Hurt.

A score of more received injuries. Of this number, Prof. Perry C. Mercer, superintendent of the Franklin School, will probably die. Mrs. Thaddeus Rambo, mother of First Assistant Fire Chief Rambo, was seriously injured and may not survive. Miss Lillian Huber, daughter of J. A. Huber, real estate dealer in the Huston block, was instantly killed, her body being terribly mangled.

Miss Huber resided with her parents on Monmouth street, East Dayton. She was about twenty years of age.

The injured were removed to the hospitals and their homes. Those who were secured private conveyances were not dangerously hurt. The most seriously injured were the following:

The List of Injured.

Prof. Perry R. Mercer, aged thirty-seven, fractured skull and otherwise injured, residing at 18 Monmouth street. He was removed to the Miami Valley Hospital.
Mrs. Thaddeus Rambo, aged sixty-

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ONLY 5 WEEKS REMAINING OF BRIEF SESSION

Half Time Wasted on
Brownsville, But Much
Work Has Been Ac-
complished.

There are only five more weeks of the short session of Congress, and most of the work yet to be done.

That is, nominally and apparently, most of it is to be done; actually, the great tasks of the committees have been pushed well toward completion, so far as concerns the money bills, which are necessarily the main business of the short session.

The Senate talked away about half the session with the Brownsville affair, and then passed a resolution which was exactly what Senator Foraker didn't want when he first raised the issue. However, it is over at last, and the Senate will now proceed to—

Talk some more!

For the Western Senators are going to take up a week or so discussing the public law and policy of Secretary Hitchcock, and roundly warning the jacket of the Secretary.

House Coin Contortions.

Next to solution of the Brownsville puzzle, the most generally interesting incident of the week was the fine spectacle which the House produced in its great act of getting away with an increase of salary without voting for it. The House did about as clever a vaudeville turn on this as the Senate did on the Brownsville matter; the speedily of the House, however, was parliamentary juggling, while that of the Senate proved to be high-class minstrelsy. The House once rejected this proposition of a salary increase when it was offered as an amendment to the legislative bill, and sent the bill to the Senate with the agent hope that the Senate would assume the responsibility of starting the thing.

But the Senate was cold and unresponsive, and sent the bill back to the House without any salary amendment save for the Vice President, Speaker, and Cabinet members.

How Trick Was Turned.

The House must initiate the proposition or struggle on without the money. So it initiated. It adopted, without a roll call, an amendment restoring the provision raising the salaries of members to \$7,500, and in this form sent the bill back to the Senate. There it was discussed at length, and three roll calls taken on it, all developing overwhelming support for the proposition. The new salary will become effective March 4.

Senator Hale created a sensation by presenting a resolution, calling on the Secretary of the Navy to investigate and report whether naval officers were violating the executive orders and naval regulations in urging the passage of the naval personnel bill. Senator Hale severely criticized naval officers for writing letters to Senators urging this legislation. He found much opposition among Senators, many of whom were disposed to think the naval officers were wholly within their rights. In the end, the resolution, with amendments, was referred to the Naval Affairs Committee.

Senator Alger's Death.

The death of Senator Alger Thursday morning cast a gloom over the end of the week in the Senate. Adjournment was taken Thursday out of respect to Senator Alger. Saturday afternoon, after a short session, the Senate attended the funeral in a body and a committee

Mrs. Marshall Field Reported Engaged To Mine President



MRS. DELIA SPENCER CATON FIELD,
Widow of Famous Chicago Merchant, Who Settled \$2,000,000 on Her Before
Their Wedding in London Shortly Before He Died.

Story Is Denied; Both Are Now in Washington.

D. B. Jones De- clines to Be In- terviewed.

Social Washington is agog over the rumor sent out from Chicago to the effect that Mrs. Delia Spencer Caton Field, widow of Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant prince, is engaged to David Benton Jones, a wealthy mine owner and clubman, of the Windy City.

Both Mrs. Field and Mr. Jones are now in Washington.

While news of the rumored engagement comes from Chicago, that city places the responsibility for the story on Washington. The following dispatch was received by a Chicago paper yesterday:

"Washington, D. C., January 26. David Benton Jones, of 141 Astor street, Chicago, announced his engagement in Washington to Mrs. Delia Spencer Caton Field.

"L. C." is no one seems to know, nor has it been possible to learn either whether the initials are genuine or fictitious, or the identity of the sender of the message.

Both Are Reticent.

Mrs. Field is at the Shoreland. When inquiry was made as to the truth or falsity of the report, she could not be seen, but her sister, Mrs. Augustus N. Eddy, of 1155 Sixteenth street northwest, said that there was no foundation for the report.

Mr. Jones is a guest of the New Willard. When asked for an interview last night he declined to receive any of the newspaper men. A letter requesting that he either affirm or deny the rumor elicited the following response:

"There is absolutely nothing to deny or affirm."
DAVID B. JONES.

Denied in Chicago.

When the mysterious telegram was received in Chicago it was sent immediately to the Jones and Fields families. Prompt denials were given out in both quarters.

"My father is in Washington with my elder sister," said Miss Catharine Jones, Mr. Jones' daughter. "They have been away for a month. I am sure there is no basis for the report of his engagement to Mrs. Field."

At the offices of the Marshall Field estate nothing was known concerning the report. A brother of Mr. Jones declared the message preposterous.

Her Marriage to Mr. Field.

Mrs. Caton, several years ago, was one of the most lavish entertainers in Chicago and her beautiful Prairie avenue home was the scene of many notable

TWELVE DEAD IN EXPLOSION OF FIRE DAMP

Fifteen Minutes' Time
Saves Lives of Nearly
Two Hundred
Others.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 26.—An explosion this evening of fire damp in the Pennsylvania mine of the Picken branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, five miles from here killed twelve miners and injured many. The five Americans killed were:

CHARLES VOSERMAN,
WILLIAM BAILEY,
CHARLES JOHNSON,
JAMES COX,
GLEN MILES.

The seven other dead were foreigners and their names could not be ascertained.

Two Hundred Just Escaped.

The explosion occurred shortly after 6 o'clock. If it had happened fifteen minutes earlier the disaster would have been appalling. Most of the 200 men in the mine had left, only a small force remaining. The explosion was heard for miles. Immediately following the report there was a rush of excited men, women, and children to the mouth of the mine.

The wives of some of the foreigners were known to be imprisoned there were frantic.

A message sent to Weston brought out a special train conveying physicians. Rescue parties were at once organized and the work of recovering the bodies was begun.

It was at first reported sixteen were in the mine, but subsequently four foreigners were accounted for.

All the Bodies Recovered.

At 10:20 o'clock all the bodies had been brought to the surface. None of the bodies was mutilated, death resulting from the deadly gas which followed the explosion and the falling of a section of the roof which cut off ventilation. It was necessary to remove this accumulation of dirt and stone before the bodies could be reached. No person in the mine when the explosion occurred escaped.

The accident occurred when the shifts were changing, and there are 200 men on each shift.

SANITARIUM PATIENT RETURNS TO HIS HOME

Frank Newton McLean, of 507 A street southeast, who had been missing from the Gundry Sanitarium, Holey, Md., since Sunday last, returned to his home last evening. McLean says that he was in the city last week, and that he stopped at the different missions.

J. H. Small & Sons, Florists,
Washington and New York.—Adv.

SHORTS PLEADS SUBSIDY

Canal Worthless If
America Has No
Steamships.

"What Is the Use?"
Asks Commission
Chairman.

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—T. P. Shorts, chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission, made a stirring appeal for ship subsidy at the banquet of the Commercial Club tonight.

"What is the use," said he, "of expending millions of American money in the construction of a new highway for American commerce when we have no American ships in which to carry that commerce? What is the use of canvassing for trade in South America when we have no means, save in foreign ships, to transport our goods after we have secured a market for them?"

Considerable interest attached to his utterances as he is to retire from the Panama canal work on March 4 to take charge of the transportation lines in Manhattan borough, Greater New York. While in a great many respects his speech was a duplicate of that made in Kansas City Thursday night, he held the interest of his audience throughout, especially when he made his plea for an American merchant marine.

CANAL CONTRACT PROVES PUZZLER

Long Conference a
House Ends With-
out on Bids.

President Roosevelt appar-
ently has not decided on award-
ing a contract for building the Panama canal. The situation at present remains unsolved.

After a long conference between the President and a number of his close advisers, it was announced from the White House last night that no statement relative to the Government's action on the canal proposals would be forthcoming for the present.

It was not denied, however, by a number of those present, that Anson M. Bangs, of New York, has been eliminated as a factor in the digging of the big ditch. Whether W. J. Oliver, the big Tennessee contractor, can swing a new combination that will be satisfactory to the Government remains yet to be seen.

May Reject All Bids.

In some circles the failure of President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft to reach any decision on the matter gives rise to the belief that the Government may reject all bids and eventually build the canal itself, according to the original plans. If this step is taken it will be under the one-man management, it is believed.

Numerous conferences on the subject have been held. Chairman Shorts, who has just resigned, together with Secretary Taft, was in consultation with the President a number of times before his departure from the city.

Yesterday's conference did not conclude until after 7 o'clock. Those connected with it, in addition to the President, were Secretary Taft, Secretary Root, Postmaster General Cortelyou, Assistant Secretary Bacon, Commissioner of Corporations Garfield, and Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Oliver Acceptable.

The President is perfectly willing to enter into a contract with William J. Oliver, of Knoxville, Tenn., if he can enter satisfactory arrangements with some large contracting firm which can meet the requirements of the Government.

It seems that Anson J. Bangs, of New York, who submitted his bid jointly with Mr. Oliver, is for some reason the obstacle to the awarding of the contract at 64 per cent of the total estimated cost.

Whether the Government can eliminate Bangs as a factor without throwing out all the bids is the problem. Those who have kept in close touch with the matter are convinced that it cannot be done.

ITALY HAS GREAT LARKS.

ROME, Jan. 26.—The district of Apuli has been visited by an extraordinary phenomenon in the form of flights of larks in countless numbers. In the neighborhood of Trani alone it is stated that 1,200,000 have been killed.

Pennsylvania R. R. to New York.

Effective Sunday, Jan. 27th, New York Express trains from Washington at 8:30 a. m. and 3:59 p. m. will each carry additional Pullman parlor car equipment on Sundays. The new 8:30 a. m. Business Men's Train on week days will also carry an additional parlor car beginning Monday, January 28.—Adv.